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OLC 78-1661 18 April 1978 554

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

FROM:

Acting Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT:

DCI Conversation with William G. Miller, Staff Director, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence re Charters

1. The other day the Director met with Bill Miller during a walk through and get acquainted session with the SSCI staffers. Miller raised the subject of charters. The Director indicated that you were heading a task force of lawyers to deal with charter matters. Miller did not think that would be helpful in making the early progress he desired at the staff level; rather, he proposed that we once again, through informal contact, try to sort out the issues.

- 2. He explained that the issue of a separate DNI was obviously a political judgment that could be set aside in one bin; reporting requirements would be another bin; items where we have no problem with the concept but have problems with their drafting would be another bin; items where we have problems with their concept would be another bin. Miller was obviously hopeful that through this process we would be able to identify the larger issues in which there is disagreement and which require decisions at higher levels.
- 3. The Director made it clear that these such informal dealings could not commit an Administration position and Miller was fully aware of that. The Director said he felt that something could be worked out and suggested that you and I get together with Miller to see that could be done. The Director had left a request that you give him a call so that he could give you further instructions on this matter, but apparently the two of you did not get together.

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